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Coming full circle

Staff cherishes role in robing room as a way of helping finish something she helped start

University takes step towards signing copyright agreement

Michael Brown

The University of Alberta has advised Access Copyright of its intention to sign a new Access Copyright licence based on a model negotiated between the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC) and Access Copyright and made available for consideration April 16.

The new agreement, which outlines how universities legally reproduce copyright-protected works in print and some digital formats, will see the university pay \$26 per full-load equivalent student. This fee is up from the previous agreement, which required universities to pay a flat fee of \$3.38 per student plus 10 cents per page for photocopied materials included in course packs; the two fees combined generated revenues for the copyright collective of \$17 to \$18 per full-time equivalent U of A student. The new agreement covers material in both print and digital formats within the Access Copyright repertoire, whereas the previous arrangement covered only printed material.

"We believe that the agreement negotiated between AUCC and Access Copyright provides the best possible outcome for the University of Alberta's students, staff and faculty in its current context."

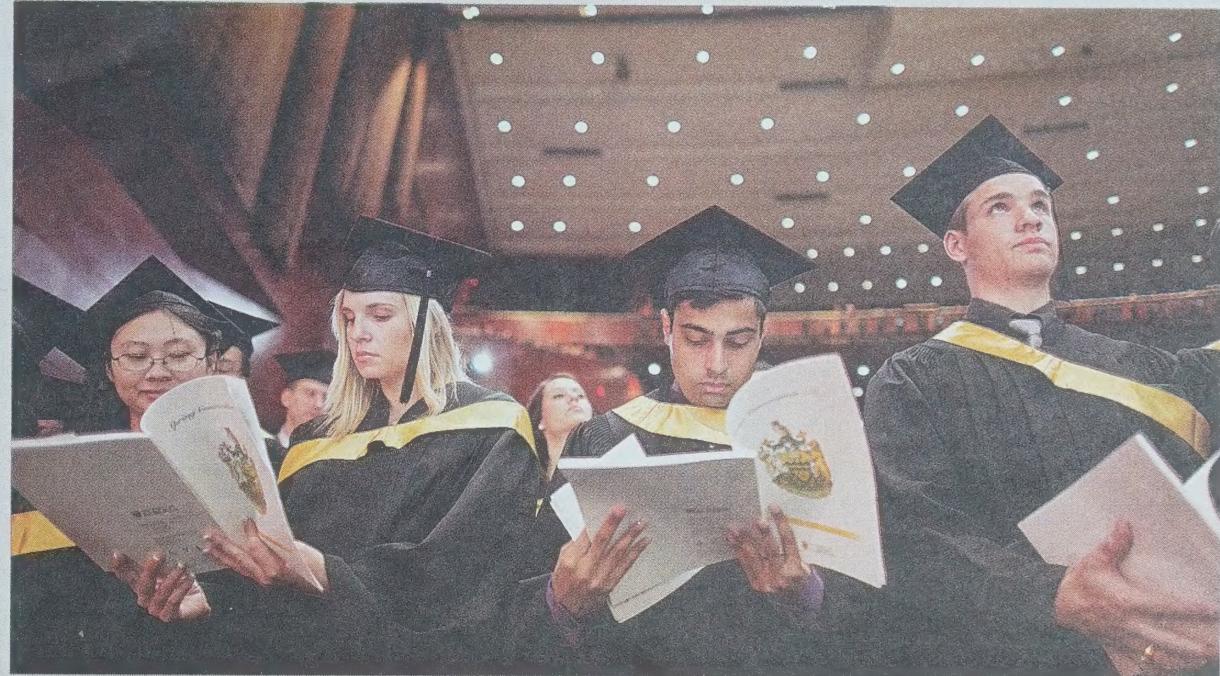
Carl Amrhein

The settlement puts a halt on an extended copyright dispute that began Jan. 1, 2011, with the expiry of a previous arrangement with Access Copyright, a non-profit organization that compensates copyright owners in exchange for

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Volume 49 Issue 20 | June 8, 2012 | www.folio.ualberta.ca

Studying up for one final test



Convocating students in the faculties of science and law look over the program in advance of crossing the Northern Alberta Jubilee stage June 6.

Provost honoured with German Order of Merit

Michael Davies-Venn

Germany's ambassador to Canada was in Edmonton June 4 to recognize two University of Alberta administrators with two of his country's highest honours.

Close to 100 people were in attendance June 4 to witness German ambassador to Canada Georg Witschel present Carl Amrhein, provost and vice-president (academic), with the Officer's Cross of the Order of Merit and present Britta Baron, vice-provost and associate vice-president (international), with the German Canadian Friendship Prize.

The German Order of Merit, known as the Bundesverdienstkreuz, is the highest tribute the Federal Republic of Germany can pay to individuals for outstanding service to the nation, on par with the Order of Canada.

"For those who know Carl, we know him to be a person of great energy and integrity," said U of A chancellor Linda Hughes. "His devotion to excellence in higher education and research both here in Alberta and around the world is second to none."

Witschel said Amrhein's work is an example of fruitful co-operation.

"For you, Dr. Amrhein, your understanding of fostering international co-operation is more than just the mobility of people and ideas and



Carl Amrhein (right) receives the Order of Merit from Georg Witschel, Germany's ambassador to Canada.

gaining knowledge. It is also building mutual understanding and respect," said Witschel.

Amrhein's commitment to international engagement spans more than two decades, starting at the University of Toronto, where he helped establish a Joint Initiative for German Studies.

The Helmholtz-Alberta Initiative, growing student exchanges between Alberta and German universities, a vibrant partnership between the university and the Ludwig-Maximilians-University of Munich, and the

Continued on page 3



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Volume 49 Issue 20

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folio's mandate is to serve as a credible news source for the university community by communicating accurate and timely information about issues, programs, people and events and by serving as a forum for discussion and debate. folio is published 23 times per year.

The editor reserves the right to limit, select, edit and position submitted copy and advertisements. Views expressed in folio do not necessarily reflect university policy. folio contents may be printed with acknowledgement.

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ISSN 0015-5764 Copyright 2011



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University goes abroad to award HD to famed Chinese artist

Michael Davies-Venn

Professor Fan Zeng, one of China's most renowned calligraphers, poets and painters, received an honorary doctor of letters degree during a ceremony in Beijing May 26.

Zeng's contributions include his devotion to producing creative works and education for more than five decades, particularly his contributions to the development of Chinese painting and financing the Oriental Arts Building of Nankai University, where he was once a professor. Toward the end of the century, Fan, an author of more than 150 works, wrote *The Warning Bell*, in which he observed that in the 20th century, peoples of the world would embrace a word named "harmony."

Joining the list of Chinese dignitaries who witnessed the conferral at the Great Hall of the People was David Mulroney, Canada's ambassador to China, chancellor Linda Hughes, vice-dean of arts Heather Zwicker, and provost Carl Amrhein.

Amrhein, who served as university president during the ceremony, noted that it was an extraordinary event to which the Chinese government sent greetings that were read during the ceremony.

"The fact that we held the event at The Great Hall of the People is probably the loudest statement on the part of our partners in China," said Amrhein. The event marked the



Fan Zeng receives his honorary doctor of letters at a special ceremony in Beijing.

first time the university conferred an honorary degree outside of Canada. Amrhein said this gesture shows the depth of the university's commitment to engaging with the rest of the world.

"It demonstrates that our definition of internationalizing the institution includes our full range of ceremonies taking place where the academic imperative of the institution makes sense. In other words, we would go, as an institution—not just our staff, faculty and students, but also our ceremonies and our traditions—where it makes sense for us to go."

Professor Fan, who is also dean of the Chinese Painting Institute of Peking University, gave what Amrhein described as a spectacular intellectual tour of Eastern and Western philosophy and science,

during a lecture in which he drew from ancient Chinese philosophers such as Laozi, scientists such as Stephen Hawking and western philosophers such as Immanuel Kant.

During his lecture, which focused on ways of improving mankind, he called for a return to a more wholesome life that is quiet, peaceful and consistent with the laws of nature. Noting the disquiet that characterizes the world today, Fan pointed out that 2,500 years ago, the Chinese philosopher Laozi said, "Quietness is the master of restless activity."

"The restless jitters of the people will lead to disturbance of the great order and disintegration of the world. It is complete foolishness to insist that the six or seven billion people of the world follow one social system, adopt one belief and practise one religion. However, the individuals of the human race all wish for peace and happiness. This is the fundamental desire of life."

The celebrated Chinese poet then led the audience to imagine a world of possibility that could come from harmonizing with nature.

"The universe follows its own laws of operation, which is a symphony that comforts man with a tranquilizing and enjoyable effect, peaceful melodies of poetic

movement," he said. "Mankind will not be threatened by flames of war, but surrounded by flowers of peace. Their eyes will not be hurt by the debris and smoke of war, but soothed by the beds of fragrant flowers of a peaceful and prosperous world."

Besides an honorary degree, Zeng has also accepted an invitation to teach a master class in poetry and painting at the U of A. He will be joined by other leading Chinese artists. Currently, the university has more than 100 exchange and co-operation programs with more than 50 Chinese institutions of higher learning and research institutes, including Peking, Tsinghua, Zhejiang, Nanjing and Nankai universities.

Amrhein says honouring Fan further strengthens those relationships with China.

"We have made a statement that we recognize, as the U of A, the contribution of leading figures in the arts and humanities from around the world to the uplifting of our institution in the faculty, staff and students in Edmonton," said Amrhein. "We hope, by recognizing, in this case, a leading cultural figure in China, that we improve the relationships that we can have with Chinese universities."

Maintaining the well-oiled convocation machine

Geoff McMaster

Corinne Callihoo has just returned from a whirlwind trip to Beijing to organize a special U of A honorary degree conferral on famed artist Fan Zeng, and her jet-lagged mind is racing with convocation details.

Callihoo is the one responsible for making sure the 13 ceremonies proceed relatively glitch-free over the two-week period when graduates finally cross the finish line, beginning their journeys into professional life. After seven years in the role, she'd like to say it all runs like a well-oiled machine, but the unpredictable arises often enough to keep things both fresh and challenging.

"Everything is always different, depending on honorary degree recipients and the number of students we have," she says. "Sometimes there are mobility issues, as we had with Rick Hansen, or you have security to work out as we had with the Agha Khan. It changes all the time."

It means that Callihoo and her team are constantly on high alert, ready to react when the carefully crafted script goes off the rails. "There was one time when the president didn't have her remarks for Michaëlle Jean. But we quickly got them for her from the sign-language interpreter. She did it at the end of the ceremony instead of the beginning, and no one knew the difference."

The preparations for convocation, which start in January, include making arrangements for parchments, name cards, platform cards, the program and booking the Jubilee Auditorium (normally five years in advance). Closer to the event, Callihoo oversees the training of marshals and bookstore volunteers who hand out parchments and apparel, and makes sure speeches are written for the chancellor and president.

What makes her job most rewarding, she says, is the dedication of her staff and volunteers who are wholly invested in what the landmark event means to thousands of graduating students—2,000 per day on average. Volunteers put in hours of overtime during convocation without a word of complaint, says Callihoo.

"It really is a team effort throughout the registrar's office—stuffing parchment folders, editing and proofreading all published materials—and we also need people to marshal and robe."



Corinne Callihoo goes over some final preparation in advance of convocation.

"It's the one time of year you get to see students at their happiest—they've achieved what they want to and reached their goals."

Teaching award winner shares his rules of engagement

Jane Hurley

When veteran teacher Gordon Bell goes into his exercise physiology class, students can depend on three things without fail: a well-prepared lesson, energetically delivered in language they can understand, and an instructor who tries to engage them from start to finish.

These are the well-ingrained lessons Bell attributes to being formally trained as a teacher, having completed an education degree and taught in the secondary school system before advancing to a second degree in kinesiology, graduate studies and then an academic career at the University of Alberta.

Bell adds that his own teaching style was influenced by several great teachers he experienced at school and university, and by his current colleagues.

"I draw heavily on my formal teacher training: I try to prepare myself and the material as well as possible. I think it's important that there's a definite plan. You convey that to the students, and they know what they're going to be learning. I think students really respond to that," he said.

To Bell, these are, quite simply, the nuts and bolts of good teaching practice, that make for a good learning experience for students.

Teaching in larger classes with plenty of technological distractions—phones, laptops and ready access to the Internet—can be challenging. It means using what Bell calls "the whole tool box of teaching management skills" in addition to using the best teaching technique to fit the subject or concept. It also means fostering a spirit of mutual respect in an environment that's "motivating and non-threatening."

"I try to convey to the students that they are in class for a reason, and so am I," says Bell. "That means if I say, 'You don't need your phone to learn in this class; it's shut off' so students can stay focused. It means if you're using your computer in class, you're not logged onto the Internet and distracted."



Gordon Bell

"Using techniques such as walking around the classroom—making sure your presence is felt and that students are engaged in the process—can be effective. It also means taking time to pose or entertain questions, and trying to provide the best answer for the student in class, and if you're unable, to get back to them." Students appreciate that and it helps the instructor continually learn as well.

Bell works hard to ensure that students understand the relevance of what they're learning in real-life contexts so they know how to apply it. In his fitness assessment classes, he uses examples from his work in the Sport and Health Assessment

Centre, where the Edmonton Oilers frequently come for their fitness testing. "When I mention the work we do with the Oilers or some other elite athlete, everyone pricks up their ears. I try to give examples that are real in their lives to help them make a connection with what it means and how the theory is applied."

Being available to students is a hallmark of Bell's style. "No student should ever say, 'I have no idea what went on in class today.' As a student, if you go into the class and are prepared, you shouldn't be wondering what happened in class, but sometimes students say this about some of their classes. It's not uncommon to hear that. That's simply poor communication—no teacher should allow that to happen."

The classroom should be an engaged space where true learning takes place—not just note-taking and memorization later, says Bell. "I believe you should be able to learn something in the classroom that doesn't require you to memorize it later. Some level of understanding should be achieved before you head out of the door. That comes back to being prepared and using the best information and method to teach the concept."

Asked what he loves about teaching, Bell says, "I do have a personal desire to help people to learn. I get fulfillment out of teaching someone something and then getting feedback about how they used it."

"Sometimes I'll get an email from a graduate who tells me that they're using some concepts they learned in class and applying it in their own work. When I see that something we did in class gets carried over and used by a student in the community, that makes all the difference."

McCalla prof turns work into rich classroom debate

Michael Brown

It was only after Alexander the Great—the Macedonian conqueror who created an empire in the fourth century BC that stretched from the Ionian Sea to the Himalayas—was dead for half a millennium that historians got around to piecing together a portrayal, accurate or otherwise, of his life.

A seeming historical oddity, considering how important a figure he was? Not so, according to Frances Pownall, who says Alexander the Great was rather tough on historians who didn't see his conquests in the right light.



Frances Pownall

"Callisthenes, one of the historians that accompanied Alexander the Great on his expedition, was actually executed [or jailed and left to die] partway through," said Pownall, a professor in the Department of History and Classics. "Ultimately, he fell afoul of Alexander for

a couple of reasons, and generally it's not a good idea to fall afoul of autocratic leaders."

Offering up cautionary tales about being in the historical portrayal service of tyrants was just one element of Pownall's year as a University of Alberta McCalla Professor.

"I can't thank the university enough for having given this to me," said Pownall. "I made a lot of progress on my work, which I think benefited my students as well, as we had some great discussions about source traditions."

McCalla professorships are university awards intended to give faculty members an opportunity to explore and implement strategies integrating their research and teaching. After using a portion of the award to further research translations of Alexander the Great's exploits, Pownall taught a winter seminar course with an emphasis on the historical problems associated with Alexander's reign, many of which stem from the near-complete loss of the contemporary historical accounts.

Having just finished a translation and commentary on one of Alexander's more flattering, apologetic historians, Aristobulus, who lived to tell the tale of his employer's military prowess, Pownall says she was able to bring actual source tradition into the classroom to open up debate about this compelling yet elusive luminary.

"My students were surprised to find out that things aren't as cut and dried for a major figure of antiquity as they had expected," said Pownall. "I think it is important for the students to see what actual evidence there is for any particular event in Alexander's reign."

"I think they were shocked by how much contamination there was from later historians, and how, for each particular event, there were three or four different versions."

Order of Merit about 'building respect'

Continued from page 1

German-Canadian Centre for Innovation and Research are examples of the more than two dozen partnerships Witschel credits Amrhein with fostering.

"Without your vital support, the GCCIR would not have been established. And what has been achieved up to now gives us every reason to be optimistic, when we think about its future," Witschel said.

Chancellor emeritus Eric Newell, who was on hand for the ceremony held at the former Mactaggart residence, which was donated to the U of A in 2010, said Amrhein has tremendous ability to create environments that foster great partnerships.

"He's action-oriented, dead set against writing long reports that just gather dust on the shelf," Newell said. "The deans love working with Carl because he takes action and gives them the freedom to come up with their ideas. The students love him and our international partners do too. Carl has good visionary and leadership initiatives, and he knows how to reach across cultural lines. That's a unique talent."

Amrhein told the audience that internationalization is a need that must be met. "For Canada, Alberta, Edmonton and this institution to achieve all that it is capable of achieving, we must be deeply engaged around the world," he said. "At the level of faculty, staff and students, and at the level of cultural understanding across the entire academy, the work continues and it will continue with increased intensity as the world becomes ever more competitive."

In presenting Baron with her award, Witschel said she is a woman who is multi-talented, very active, dedicated and devoted. "She has accomplished, in many areas, a lot to bring science institutions, researchers and students, and others in Germany and Alberta together."

Baron has brought to the U of A a decades-long record of connecting German institutions with foreign counterparts. She says the U of A stands unrivaled in its partnerships with Germany, which includes programs with Germany's top two institutions.

"I can't think of any other university, even in the U.S., let alone research-intensive universities in Canada, that would have such a commitment and at the same time be so successful in interacting with Germany on all levels, including the highest levels of government and academia," she said.



Britta Baron

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EDMONTON JOURNAL

The eternal optimism of convocation can be quite contagious

Linda Hughes, Chancellor

It's one of the happiest sights on campus. Every spring, young men and women clad in black gowns walking with parents and partners trailing behind, carrying the various paraphernalia involved in convocation—colourfully ribbed hoods and mortar boards, cameras and bags, degrees and flowers. Every once in awhile, they stop in front of a favourite building or scenic garden and pose for pictures. For me, all of this is a welcome signal that one of my favourite responsibilities as chancellor has arrived.

Since my installation as chancellor on Nov. 19, 2008, I have had the privilege of presiding over some 50 convocation ceremonies. Even now, as I approach my last ceremony,



Linda Hughes

I have never tired of this part of the job. Every spring and fall, our fabulous ceremonies office strives to create a convocation experience that meaningfully caps every graduate's years at the University of Alberta, with the right blend of

warmth, formality and celebration. Our hope is that the transformation from student to alumna/alumnus that occurs about midway through the ceremony instils a sense of pride and connection for years to come.

I find that there is an emotional force in the auditorium that transforms an event into a shared experience. It is such a privilege to meet and hear from our honorary degree recipients, and to see time and again how much it means to them to be recognized by the U of A. After every ceremony, I have the opportunity to speak to new graduates and their parents, and I am constantly inspired and moved by their stories as well. For many, a university education would have been out of reach for them if not for the U of A, and success would not have been possible if not for the support

they've received from professors and staff. Sometimes those of you who work on campus each day may not see the impact of your efforts, but I can assure you that for many students and parents, being educated at the university is a gift and opportunity that is highly valued.

In part, it was because of the stories I heard at convocation that I was inspired to make my own particular contribution to the U of A community. Along with my colleagues on the university senate and with wonderful volunteer support from students, faculty and staff, we have started U School—a program that brings children here

for one full week who might otherwise never set foot on campus. My hope is that they will be inspired by their experience to return once they graduate from high school, and know that they will be welcomed and supported as they strive to achieve their potential.

I want to thank all of you who have made my years here so rewarding. Although my days as chancellor are ending with this spring's convocation, like all of our new alumni, I am now a lifelong member of the U of A family and I look forward to remaining in close contact for many years to come. ■

Information protection decrypted in new policy

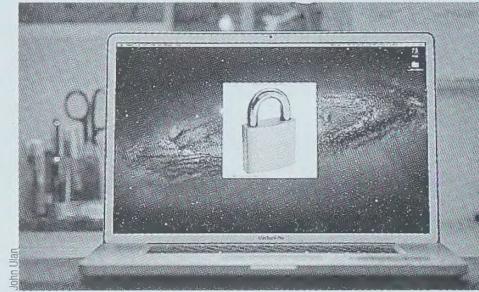
Michael Brown

To properly safeguard sensitive university information stored on mobile devices, the University of Alberta now has an encryption procedure in place.

The Alberta School of Business and the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry have already deployed laptop encryption, and the rest of the university community is now required to do the same.

When you power off and your machine is stolen or lost, even if an unauthorized person physically accesses or manipulates the hard drive, they will not be able to decrypt the contents in the hard drive."

Gordie Mah



Mah says each area's IT department will provide the support for the procedure where needed, adding that those wishing to and capable of enabling the encryption on their own are encouraged to go to the encryption project website at vpit.ualberta.ca/encryption.

"The solutions selected consider the University's business and usability needs," said Mah. "We weren't looking to reinvent the wheel so the solutions we chose are encryption tools that already come bundled with your operating system."

With the Windows 7 operating system the encryption tool is called BitLocker, while Mac OS operating systems use FileVault.

Mah says the whole premise of hard-drive encryption is to protect information that is at rest or stored on the computer. "When you power off and your machine is stolen or lost, even if an unauthorized person physically accesses or manipulates the hard drive, they will not be able to decrypt the contents in the hard drive."

Although encryption is a crucial step towards protecting sensitive university information, Mah is quick to say that encryption is not a "panacea."

"Encryption is not meant as a silver bullet. It is meant to be one of the controls needed for adequate mobile computing security. It does buy you some security, but you should always be vigilant in ensuring the overall security of your mobile devices." The university's mobile device security best practices can be found at vpit.ualberta.ca/encryption/docs/Mobile-Device-Security-Best-Practices-Dec-15-2011.pdf. ■

The scope of the procedure covers all university laptops and machines, and any personal, external, or other non-university computers and devices that store sensitive university information.

"Hard-drive encryption, specifically laptop encryption, is an accepted industry-standard best practice," said Gordie Mah, the university's information technology security officer in the Office of the Provost and Vice-President (Academic). "There are also legislative influences, specifically those passed by the Alberta Government and directives from the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner, explicitly stating that all organizations caring for personal information, especially public bodies, must deploy laptop encryption."

Are You a Winner?

Congratulations to Bob Barton, whose name was drawn as part of Folio's May 25 "Are You a Winner?" contest. Barton correctly identified the chimney and brickwork in the photo as belonging to the old power plant just south of Triffo Hall. For his efforts, Barton has won a U of A sweater courtesy of the U of A bookstore. Up for grabs this week is one final sweater. To win, simply identify where the object pictured is located and email your answer to folio@ualberta.ca by noon on Monday, June 18, and you will be entered into the draw.



President named to global commerce advisory panel

Michael Brown

President Indira Samarasekera has been named as the only academic leader on a new federal advisory panel assembled to help guide Canada's international pro-trade agenda.

The panel, announced by Ed Fast, federal minister of international trade and Asia-Pacific Gateway, is borne of the federal government's 2007 Global Commerce Strategy, which was implemented to help drive Canadian leadership in international trade, job creation and economic growth.

"As the only representative of Canada's academic research community, I can bring a different perspective to the panel," said Samarasekera. She added she will use her placement on the panel to highlight that international research and teaching partnerships, such as those we are building at the U of A, are foundational to sound economic and social development.

"Universities have an important role to play in facilitating the exchange of people, ideas and talent to the benefit not only of Canada, but also to our global partners."

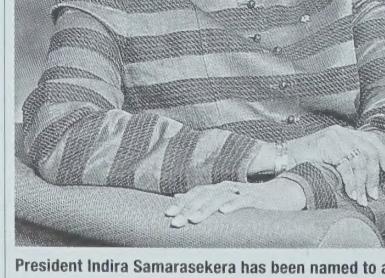
Grand honneur

President Indira Samarasekera was at the University of Montreal May 25 to accept an honorary degree.

Previously, Samarasekera has received honorary degrees from the University of British Columbia and the University of Waterloo in Canada, and Queen's University in Belfast, Ireland. ■

The group, made up primarily of Canadian industry and political leaders, will look at finding ways of, among other things, further deepening Canada's trading relationships in priority markets around the world, including Brazil, China, the countries of the European Union, India and Japan.

"I look forward to receiving advice from these knowledgeable Canadian leaders, all of whom are advocates of a broad and ambitious Global Commerce Strategy, on an updated plan that will guide Canada's trade priorities going forward," said Fast. "In what remains a fragile global



President Indira Samarasekera has been named to a federal advisory panel on international trade.

economic climate, our government's pro-trade leadership is generating benefits for hard-working Canadians in every region of our country."

"A new Global Commerce Strategy will build on this success and ensure that we continue to stand tall on the world stage."

The new Global Commerce Strategy will be announced in 2013. ■

Eggshells the key to new energy technology

Richard Cairney

Imagine charging your cellphone or laptop in seconds instead of hours, or fully charging an electric car in less than an hour instead of overnight.

A materials science engineering research team working at the University of Alberta and the National Research Council's National Institute for Nanotechnology has developed an electrochemical supercapacitor that makes slow, rechargeable batteries seem outdated—and they're using eggshells to help power their plan.

Led by materials engineering professor and NINT researcher David Mitlin, the team is using carbonized eggshell membranes to build supercapacitors that charge up almost instantaneously, hold three times the energy of current designs and are remarkably resistant to corrosion. The supercapacitors the team produces are smaller than a quarter.

By using eggshell membranes, the group's design taps a vast resource that is otherwise considered waste.

The group's research findings have been published in the prestigious science journal *Advanced Energy Materials*, widely regarded as the world's leading publication for renewable energy materials and chemistry research.

Mitlin says the idea of using eggshell membranes comes from post-doctoral fellow Zhi Li, who is the lead author of the research paper. Li had read about the structure and chemistry of eggshell membranes, and the team decided to use the membranes as a template upon which it would design its new supercapacitor. But Li quickly concluded that the membranes themselves were far more efficient than anything he could produce—including highly refined activated charcoal, which is used in contemporary supercapacitors.

Mitlin says the membranes work well because they are rich in nitrogen, which can

absorb and store energy. The membrane's porous structure enhances the supercapacitor's ability to absorb and release a charge quickly.

"The key to all of this is that supercapacitors can charge much faster," said Li. "They can charge up in seconds."

It is conceivable that these devices could one day replace rechargeable batteries, which are much slower to recharge.

Unlike batteries, capacitors are designed to build up an electrical charge quickly then release it in concentrated bursts. Common applications include camera flashes, or settings that allow your cellphone to vibrate. With electronic devices requiring less energy, and supercapacitors charging up in seconds rather than hours—and storing more power—the advantage is clear.

Funding for the research was provided by a discovery grant from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council, and through the National Research Council's National Institute for Nanotechnology. ■



Zhi Li holds a quarter, a piece of carbonized eggshell membrane and a new supercapacitor, which can charge up almost instantaneously. It holds three times the energy of current designs and is remarkably resistant to corrosion. ■

Fish may hold fix for vision loss

Raquel Maurier

An omega-3 fatty acid found in fish, known as DHA, prevented age-related vision loss in lab tests, according to recent medical research from the University of Alberta.

Yves Sauvé, a researcher in the departments of ophthalmology and physiology, and his team discovered that lab models fed DHA did not accumulate a toxic molecule at the back of the eyes. The toxin normally builds up in the retina with age and causes vision loss.

"This discovery could result in a very broad therapeutic use," says Sauvé, whose work was recently published in the peer-reviewed journal *Investigative Ophthalmology & Visual Science*.

"In normal aging, this toxin increases twofold as we age. But in lab tests, there was no increase in this toxin whatsoever. This has never been demonstrated before—that supplementing the diet with DHA could make this kind of difference."

The team recently started another study, looking at people who have age-related macular degeneration, a condition that results in loss of central vision and is the main cause of blindness in people over the age of 50. The researchers will

look for DNA markers in the blood of study participants, aiming to determine whether participants with certain genetic markers will respond better to increasing amounts of DHA in their diet, and if so, why.

Various organizations funded the research; the primary funder was the Canadian Institutes of Health Research. ■



Yves Sauvé

Physicists unravel prion misfolding mystery

Suzette Chan

Researchers from the Department of Physics and the National Institute for Nanotechnology are the first to map out the folding pathways of prions.

Prions are malformed proteins that lead to diseases such as Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease in humans and bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE, or "mad cow" disease) in cattle.

The team of researchers used specially designed optical tweezers to pull apart prion protein molecules and map their motions with unprecedented precision.

"We are using tools from physics to help solve hard problems in biology," said Michael Woodside, a research officer at NINT who holds a cross-appointment as an assistant professor of physics at the U of A. "No one has ever directly mapped out the folding pathways that are available to the prion protein. By doing this, we get more detailed information about what are the likely states of the protein that should be

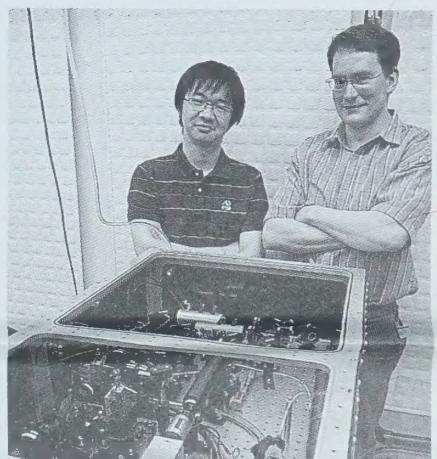
targeted by therapeutics to prevent the disease."

Most strikingly, Woodside's team found that the unfolded state of the prion may play a key role in the misfolding. "We don't see evidence for the kind of partially folded, almost native intermediate states that have been postulated to lead to disease. Instead we find evidence for the importance of the unfolded state,

which has been more neglected."

The optical tweezers, used to pull on the protein molecules to measure atomic-scale motions of the molecules in real time as they change structure, were developed by Woodside and his team.

The findings were recently published in *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences USA*. The lead authors were Hao Yu, a PhD candidate in physics, and Xia Liu, a postdoc who is now a staff scientist at the Canadian Light Source.



Hao Yu (left) and Michael Woodside used specially designed 'optical tweezers' to help unravel the mystery of prion protein misfolding. ■

Woodside is proud of his team, and predicts the findings will lead to more investigations.

"This is the first study that has directly observed and characterized the formation of non-native (incorrect) structures in individual protein molecules that contain a single structural domain," he said. "Only a handful of studies have had sufficient spatial and temporal resolution to observe such effects, and they have not seen them." ■

Centennial sculpture unveiled on Augustana Campus



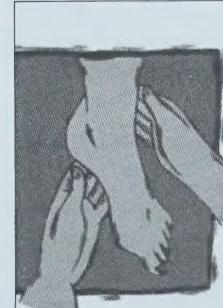
Story & photo by Christopher Thrall
Handcrafted from steel and stones, a new signature sculpture unveiled on Augustana Campus in Camrose June 3 commemorates 100 years of history and the ideals of a community.

The work of welded-steel artist and U of A Main Campus art instructor Royden Mills, the 18,000-pound three-piece installation, named Augustana: Beyond a Certain Phrase and sitting in the heart of Augustana's quad, was crafted from welded steel and enormous prairie stones. It includes a polished steel bench etched with symbols of knowledge and a large ceremonial bell.

Augustana dean Allen Berger (ringing bell) was joined in the dedication ceremony immediately following Augustana's convocation ceremony by (left to right) Agnes Hoveland, board of governors representative; Phyllis Clark, U of A vice-president (finance and administration); Roger Epp, former dean of Augustana and Verlyn Olson, Camrose-Wetaskiwin MLA and minister of agriculture and rural development.

Mills says he was inspired by his history in the community, his own experience as a student and his relationship with academia.

"In dedicating this statue today," said Berger, "we are both honouring a century of history and rededicating ourselves to the ideals that have informed our past."



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Homegrown Alberta Model designed to promote performance sport

Michael Brown

Just as surely as the Golden Bears and Pandas logos are sewn onto the outfits of the athletes who represent the University of Alberta in their chosen sport, Athletics director Ian Reade says athletics will be sewn back into the fabric of the university's academic mission.

A new strategy to reinforce the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation's curriculum with athletics, and vice versa, is referred to as the Alberta Model, named for what is thought to be the first such sport development model at any Canadian university.

"It is really a throwback to the origination of how faculties of physical education came together to re-emphasize how we deliver sport," said Reade, who along with Kerry Mummery, dean of the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation, are the modern architects of the Alberta Model.

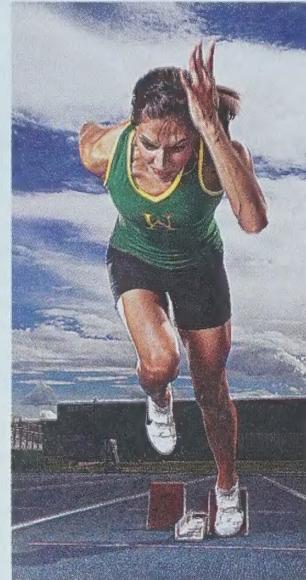
Reade says much of the heavy lifting for the Alberta Model was done more than a half century ago, when Canadian sporting legend Maury Van Vliet was named dean of the Commonwealth's first faculty of physical education in 1964 at the U of A. A visionary, Van Vliet used his tenure to help orchestrate collaborations that would begin burrowing his researchers into virtually every faculty on campus,

and put physical education and recreation students and researchers at the leading edge of physical fitness research. Nearly 70 years later, that vision is seeing them combating ailments long thought to be the sole domain of medical researchers, such as diabetes and cancer.

But Van Vliet never took his eye off the ball that was his faculty's *raison d'être*: sport. According to Reade, however, research into sport in Canada's phys ed faculties in the years since Van Vliet's retirement in 1975 has been replaced by the more fundable research into physical activity as it relates to health.

"More and more, when our teachers and our researchers started to talk about physical activity, they would talk about health, they would talk about the link between physical activity and health and obesity and cancer," said Reade. "Funding agencies started funding more health-related things, and the faculties switched over to health and wellness faculties, and sport became secondary."

Lately, thanks in part to the reinvigoration of performance sport by the 2010 Vancouver Olympics, Reade says there is a little more money out there for performance-sport-based researchers. Money or not, however, Reade says performance sport is a good place for the U of A to be.



U of A female sprinter Janelle Khan.

trying to say, "Let's not forget that performance sport fits here too."

Reade says the idea behind the Alberta Model is to make sure the curriculum, "which is the foundational building block of the university, what the students experience every day, has both theory and application.

"We want our students to be able to study performance sport in the curriculum and get involved in performance sport in the community," he said. "If you don't have curriculum that is performance sport, you make it hard for students to go practise it."

One example of the Alberta Model in action is the master of coaching program replacing the long-time master of arts (coaching) degree. Reade explains that this course-based graduate program deviates from the traditional thesis-based degree and gives students interested in coaching a chance to apply their knowledge.

Applying that knowledge will be made easier with the development of a high-performance training centre at the Saville Community Sports Centre located at the U of A's South Campus. Here, Reade says, students will train athletes in concert with performance sport research.

"It is very much creating collaboration between performance-sport practitioners, who are the athletes and the coaches, and those studying sport and performance, who are the undergraduate and graduate students," he said. "Little bits of that are happening accidentally already, probably forever in our faculty, but what we're trying to do is make it far more systemic and far more purposeful, while creating a financial base that will support it."

In the end, Reade says, the Alberta Model is about creating a more relevant and engaged student experience.

"Anything that benefits the students benefits the university—you can't separate the two," he said. "We also fulfil more fully the community-service mandate; community athletes will benefit and ultimately I do feel it will generate more research money and more research productivity."

He adds, "As an athletics department we are about performance sport; we recognize physical activity as being very important, but let's not forget we have 550 athletes and 50 coaches and we're just trying to do some performance things." ■

University 101

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Golden Bears basketball, hockey name new coaches

Folio Staff

Barnaby Craddock, a rising star in the Canadian basketball coaching ranks, is the new head coach of the University of Alberta Golden Bears basketball team.

Craddock, originally from Vancouver, has coached in Canadian Interuniversity Sport for over a decade, including seven seasons as head coach. In his first two CIS head coach campaigns with Brandon University (2006-2007), he amassed a 30-12 record, winning national coach-of-the-year honours and the CIS silver medal in 2007. He then joined the University of the Fraser Valley, which had just entered CIS and Canada West play after competing in the Canadian Collegiate

Athletics Association. In five seasons he shepherded the fledgling program to four playoff seasons, their first CIS national ranking, the 2012 Canada West silver and a fourth-place finish at the most recent national championship.

He also has coached with various Canada Basketball teams, includ-

ing the 2011 Summer University Games team that earned silver in Shenzhen, China, as well as the 2012 Canada Basketball Men's Cadet team that is playing in the under-17 world championship this summer in Lithuania.

Craddock joins a Golden Bears program that won the 2012 Canada West championship, with a win over his UFV no less, finished second at the national championship and features a stable of stars like Jordan Baker, who is CIS all-Canadian and is averaging just a hair under a double-double in his three-year career, as well as 2012 CIS championship tournament all-star Sahr Saffa, and Todd Bergen-Henegouwen.

Craddock's playing career began at the University of Lethbridge (1994-97) where he was a CIS second team all-Canadian (1997), and would have played against Alberta's back-to-back national championship

teams (1994 and 1995). After graduation, he left for Europe, where he played professionally until 2002.

"The Golden Bears basketball program has a storied tradition, and it's an honour to become part of it," said Craddock. "I'm enthusiastic to work with the talented group of current student-athletes, as well as the challenge of continuing the tradition of excellence that the Golden Bears basketball program is synonymous with."

Craddock's hiring comes on the heels of the Golden Bears hockey team, introducing Ian Herbers as its new bench boss.

Herbers, a former American Hockey League coach and one-time NHL defenceman, will lead the Golden Bears hockey program into its 100th season of play as the 23rd head coach in the program's storied history.

After a playing career that included four years with the Golden Bears (1989-1992), a bachelor of physical education degree with distinction, a university national championship (1992), a Calder Cup championship (1993), a Turner Cup championship (International Hockey League) and over a decade of pro hockey—including NHL stops in Edmonton, Tampa Bay and New York with the Islanders—Herbers moved into the coaching ranks. He was an assistant in San Antonio (AHL) and with the OHL's Saginaw Spirit. He received his first head-coaching job with the ECHL's Johnstown Chiefs in 2007, where he also served as general manager. He then joined the Milwaukee Admirals as an assistant in 2009, and was appointed head coach in 2011, amassing a 30-23 record.

"I had a great situation in Milwaukee with the Nashville Predators organization, but this is a chance to keep building on the great Golden Bears tradition," said Herbers, who was born in Jasper. "Clare Drake and Bill Moores were the coaches that guided me, and I'm really honoured and excited to join the elite University of Alberta coaching ranks, and to return something to this program and keep its legacy moving forward." ■



Barnaby Craddock



Ian Herbers

Esk O-lineman shakes off early fumble on way to degree

Bev Betkowski

When Gord Hinse arrived at the University of Alberta in 2005 on a football scholarship, he thought he had it made—playing the game he loved for the Golden Bears, attending class, enjoying life as a first-year arts student.

It all went poof when, like many newbies, he hit a wall. "I flunked out. I was a good student in high school; I never found it hard to study. But while I had a successful first year in football, my study skills weren't what they were supposed to be."

It may be hard to believe that Hinse, now 24, couldn't ace the classroom the way he has easily aced the football field—being drafted by the Edmonton Eskimos in 2009 was the topper on a stack of athletic accomplishments.

The list is impressive: Hinse was named 2007-08 U of A Academic All-Canadian, played for Team Alberta in the 2005 Canada Cup, was a member of Team Canada at the 2007 World Junior Under 20 Championships, and was named to the 2007 Canada West all-star team. Now entering his fourth season as number 57, a rough-and-ready offensive lineman for the Eskimos, Hinse is at the top of his game.

Instead of being defeated by that initial academic failure, Hinse found a way to work through it. On June 11, he'll be awarded a bachelor's degree from the Faculty of Native Studies. Although he'll be unable to collect his degree in person because of his football duties, Hinse will be there in spirit.

Hinse is the first in his family to receive a university degree, and though his was a post-secondary



Gord Hinse

journey of seven long years, he doesn't regret sticking with it.

Determined to rejoin the ranks of the Golden Bears after dropping out of school, Hinse spent a year upgrading. When he returned to the U of A—and the Bears—in 2007, Hinse considered different faculties but enrolled in Native Studies for the rich variety of subject matter in its lineup.

"It's a mix of a lot of different stuff—sociology, anthropology, law, history, contemporary issues, everything rolled into one. I told myself, if I didn't like it, I could transfer out." He never did.

A recreational hunter himself, Hinse was fascinated with aspects of Aboriginal history, including buffalo hunts, which he turned into a classroom paper. He was also surprised to learn more about the treatment of Aboriginal Peoples in Canada than what his grade-school classes had taught. "I'd never heard of residential schools before coming to the U of A. A lot of it was shocking."

Although his Métis family background didn't play a particularly large role in his choice of degree, Hinse was vaguely aware of and wanted to learn more about the

history of Aboriginal peoples in Canada, including treaty negotiations in his ancestral home province of Saskatchewan. "I have more realization now about a lot of the things my ancestors would have experienced."

Hinse also liked the welcoming atmosphere of native studies. "I'm not an extrovert, so I liked the open-door policy the professors had, and it was almost like a family, being a small faculty. People were willing to help me and see me succeed."

That sense of belonging was boosted by the Golden Bears, who welcomed Hinse back on the team when he returned to school. "They gave me a second chance and didn't write me off as a lost cause."

Even after being drafted by the Eskimos, Hinse knew he wanted to continue with his degree, which meant scheduling his studies around the off-season and adding another two years to his undergrad program.

"By then I had four years invested and I didn't want to waste that effort. And I'm going to still be young when I'm done playing. A degree will give me a meaningful job," said Hinse, who says he hopes to supplement his studies with a two-year education degree, to become a teacher.

"It is refreshing to focus on studies that take you outside of [football]. You can burn yourself out if you focus on one thing all the time."

Conversely, Hinse also carries his classroom skills into the locker room. "I learned how to study and that comes in handy when you are reviewing game videos, game plans and playbooks."

And though that first-year failure as a freshman stung, Hinse is now grateful for the journey. "Flunking out of school was the best thing that happened to me. Now there's a final coming-together of everything."

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Fitting roles on students' first and last day staff spotlight

Michael Brown

Oall the eventful days of a university student's career, two of the most gratifying are typically the day they are accepted in and the day they graduate. It makes sense, then, that the people in the central registry who open the file on each new university student on that first day have found a role to play on the students' final day.

"At the beginning of a student's academic career, we're the first people they deal with," said Lorie Cinq-Mars, a supervisor in the central registry within the Office of the Registrar, who doubles as a "robing room" attendant during convocation ceremonies. "For us, it's kind of neat that we're there at the end as well for convocation, which is always a positive thing."

Ever since Cinq-Mars began working in the central registry in 1997 as a file clerk, her entire office has participated in some aspect of convocation, particularly looking after the convocation gowns for dignitaries.

"We're called into duty, and that's the gig we have every year," she said. "Basically, our job is to help the academics get dressed."

Not an easy task, considering the University of Alberta tradition, pomp and circumstance involved



Lorie Cinq-Mars

in the convocation procession of dignitaries there to ensure that the magnitude of the occasion is not lost on any graduate.

Cinq-Mars explains that each gown is assigned to an academic based on height and highest degree attained. For instance, if the person going to the stage holds a PhD, then they get a PhD gown, which she says is a heavier gown made partially of velvet and has to be tied on. A master's or undergraduate degree holder wears an undergraduate black gown with a hood that denotes their degree. Senators and members of the board of governors wear gowns made of satin or green wool, respectively, along with a stole that denotes their role.

Finally, the chancellor, chair of the board of governors, registrar and president all have custom-fitted gowns that are theirs for all time.

"We make sure the right gown is ready for each person before they even walk in the door and is then put on properly. Then we line the group up in a procession and make sure everyone is in order," said Cinq-Mars. "When it's over, we bring them back in and do it all in reverse, four times a day during convocation."

The role has grown to include a need for gown attendants during a myriad of special occasions, including bonus honorary degree ceremonies outside the normal spring and fall graduations, which is fine by Cinq-Mars.

"The people I work with are the best, and I think they like this job because it is different from the regular day-to-day," she said. "It's nice to see the same people every year [under these circumstances]. Even though we don't have direct contact with students, it's nice to participate at the end of their academic career."



UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

"uplifting the whole people"

—HENRY MARSHALL TORY, FOUNDRY PRESIDENT, 1902

Change of heart leads to change of course

Quinn Phillips

Scientist Howard Young's research has taken a dramatic, unexpected turn in the last few months, thanks to a serendipitous chain of events that could lead to a genetic test that can predict heart failure.

“I expected to be right, but not in the time frame that occurred. It happened quickly.”

Howard Young

It started when members of his team, Delaine Ceholski and Cathy Triebel, discovered a new mutation in a protein called phospholamban, which they predicted would cause the heart to be less responsive to changes in the body and eventually lead to heart failure. A month after they submitted their paper to the *Journal of Biological Chemistry* for review, their work was validated when—in

completely separate research—the mutation was found in two patients in Brazil.

“We predicted it exactly,” said Young, an associate professor in the biochemistry department and researcher at the National Institute for Nanotechnology. “It’s interesting because as basic researchers you feel like you have to constantly defend your research and how relevant test-tube work is to patients. Then one day, to our surprise, we were right.

“I expected to be right, but not in the time frame that occurred. It happened quickly.”

Shortly after that, Young was asked to speak at the Centennial Lectures, a speakers’ series offered by the faculty as a lead-up to the medical school’s centennial year in 2013 to spotlight the translational work of its researchers.

Young was paired with cardiologist and researcher Justin Ezekowitz of the Department of Medicine. Each became interested in the other’s work, and now the two are pairing up to screen patients’ blood samples for mutations in the phospholamban protein.

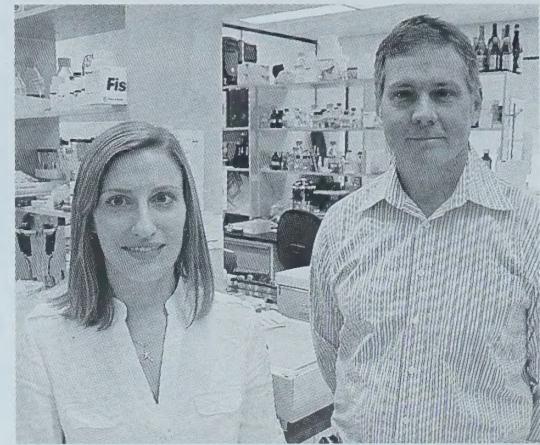
“If someone asked me last September if we’d ever get into sequencing patients’ genes

and trying to discover mutants, I would say ‘no, you’re wrong,’ said Young. “But now we’re very interested in starting large sequencing studies to try to find more mutations.”

Through his research, Young thinks he has established good prediction models for heart disease. If his research group finds a mutation in phospholamban through blood screening, Young believes he can predict the severity of the mutation and whether or not it will be associated with disease.

“It will be truly personalized medicine,” said Young. “If we know they [patients] have a mutation before disease, monitoring and early treatment could improve and extend the quality of life for these patients.”

Young and researchers in his lab will look at blood samples from about 750 patients at the Mazankowski Alberta Heart Institute.



Graduate student Delaine Ceholski with Howard Young

Young expects to find at least two or three people with a mutation in phospholamban.

They’ll also look for other mutations that have not been previously discovered. “There’s a related protein to phospholamban in the skeletal muscle and the atria of the heart, so we’re branching out and going to see if we can identify new mutations, because no mutations have been identified in that protein,” he said. ■

Study shows ‘old’ stereotypes affect the young

Jamie Hanlon

If people think their toddlers are missing the old-person barbs that Homer, Bart and the others toss at Grandpa Simpson, they may want to change their minds—and the channel. Young children are capable of picking up on ageism and stereotyping of older people, and they are also acting on it, showing similar ageist biases, says a group of University of Alberta researchers.

In an article published in *Educational Gerontology*, Sheree Kwong See, a behavioural psychologist, and her co-authors Carmen Rasmussen and Quinn Pertman say that kids are able to pick up on our cultural stereotypes through observing interactions with older people. These observations are in turn tainting their responses towards older people. Kwong See says this behaviour marks a failure to treat ageism in the same way as racism and sexism—a deficiency that not only perpetuates the behaviour, but also propels these same children towards becoming a caricature of their own beliefs, a self-fulfilling prophecy, in their old age.

“We’ve heard so often that you should treat other people the way that you would want to be treated,” she said. “This study contributes to a bigger body of research suggesting this really is a good rule to live by, and the world would be a better place if we all did.”

In the experiment, the researchers used humans and puppets as experimenters to ask children a question regarding the number of articles present. When the spacing between articles changed, the experimenters asked the children to indicate again how many articles were present. Because children are always processing and trying to understand what is happening in their social interactions, said Kwong See, they tended to respond differently depending on the perceived age of the person asking the same question.



Sheree Kwong See used puppets to test whether children would respond differently based on stereotypes of older people.

“By the time you’re an older person, the stereotypes you knew as a child and acted on as an adult come to be a self-fulfilling prophecy and come to apply to you.”

Sheree Kwong See

treat and speak to older people, but also how we view ourselves as we age. She says current research looks at how these beliefs affect people’s self-view and their actions as they get older—and possibly even their longevity.

“By the time you’re an older person, the stereotypes you knew as a child and acted on as an adult come to be a self-fulfilling prophecy and come to apply to you,” she said. “That can subsequently have an impact on how you behave cognitively and how you interact with other people.”

Kwong See said ageism intervention needs to start early to combat the negative stereotypes and to avoid the cycle people go through from being the perpetrator to being the target.

“If we want people to rely less on stereotypes, we need to show them the exceptions; we need to show them the heterogeneity in aging,” she said. “The reality of aging is that there’s considerable heterogeneity; older people differ. They differ a lot, and that is a more complicated story to portray, but it is the truth.” ■

The way the experiment was set up, if an older person asks you the same question twice in a row, if you’ve got beliefs about aging, then you might assume that the older person is asking because of poor vision—they can’t see what’s just happened, they can’t hear you or they’re just confused,” said Kwong See. “[With the results of this study] we now have pretty good converging evidence that there’s an early start to this age stereotyping.”

Kwong See says these stereotypical views become internalized over time, affecting not only the way we

Accounting for more than taste

Brian Murphy

Exactly how nutritious are the food products made in Alberta? A University of Alberta researcher is going to find out by putting the micronutrients of raw, unprocessed foods under the microscope.

David Wishart, a U of A biology and computing science researcher, says the public can get only so much information on nutritional value from the back of a cereal box.

Wishart says food packaging typically lists some macronutrients like fat, protein and some vitamins and minerals, but those cover only 15 to 20 chemicals. “The average food item that you eat, even your morning coffee, contains about 5,000 different compounds, and it’s our objective to try and measure more of those,” said Wishart.

Wishart says the researchers want to get that information specifically about Alberta foods to give consumers and food producers in the province a baseline of where nutrition values are now and where there’s room for improvement.

The researchers will look primarily at food in its raw state, such as cereal crops before they’re turned into bread. In total, the researchers will examine 50 to 60 foods over the next three years, and the nutritional values will be put in a publicly accessible database in a consumer-friendly format called food fact sheets.

Wishart says that although some food products such as cereal crops go through a lot of processing between the measuring of their nutritional value and eventual consumption, the data will give consumers and producers a measurement of their products’ original nutritional value.

“When it’s a steak on the barbecue and it’s Alberta beef, you’ll know what’s there,” said Wishart.

Wishart’s research is one of 13 food-quality health studies supported by \$5 million from Alberta Innovates Bio Solutions and seven other provincial funders.



David Wishart is taking a closer look at food products made in Alberta to help educate people about the nutritional value of what they eat.

“The idea is to inform people in a more scientific way than simply saying, ‘If I eat fat, I’ll get fat, and if I eat protein, I’ll get muscular,’ said Wishart. “That’s the old way of thinking about food and that’s so wrong. This program should go a long way toward educating people about the true value of their food.” ■

Clearing a path to success for foreign workers

Jamie Hanlon

As Alberta moves slowly towards another boom and the federal government announces changes in foreign-worker program rules, one University of Alberta researcher says lessons should be learned from recent experiences.

Alison Taylor is the co-author of two studies: the first involved nurses brought in through the program to reduce nursing shortages in the province; the other looked at the ex-

periences of tradespeople in Alberta during and towards the end of the last boom. Both groups, she says, encountered disadvantages largely because of the rules and structures of both of the programs, as well as the limitations placed on them as internationally trained workers. Taylor says that clearly communicating expectations and guidelines to workers interested in coming to Canada, and offering more support to them in meeting licensure requirements and pursuing permanent residence, may afford these workers a greater chance of success in the Canadian context.

Taylor says several factors contributed to a lack of success by foreign-trained nurses, mostly from the

"Had CARNA been involved from the start, some of [the registration guidelines and requirements] may have been more apparent, but without that group being present, these workers really were misled," said Taylor. "The approach of Alberta Health Services since then has been to just say, 'We're not going to do it anymore because it was such a mess' as opposed to saying, 'Let's do it properly if we're going to do it.'"

For industrial construction workers recruited to work at the numerous projects around Fort McMurray, the challenges stem not only from issues of certification but also those of social integration. Taylor and Jason Foster, the study's co-author,

found that there was a sense of alienation among the workers because their jobs, which required residence in a camp, left them largely cut off from any social network. Further, to be qualified to work, these individuals also had to become certified journeymen under Canada's Red Seal Interprovincial Standards Program. Given that the test is provided in English and French only, and contains Canada-centric, technical trade terms, Taylor says it is little wonder that there seems to be such a low rate of success. This setback—and the added problem of a global recession—meant that many found their dreams of working in Canada short-lived.

Taylor says that before workers are brought in to fill such roles in Canada, there should be a reasonable expectation by the employer that the workers are able to meet the standards of the federal and provincial licensing bodies. She says workers, who have often paid significant fees to recruiters, should also be given some assurance that work will be available. For Taylor, a key concern for both industry and government should be accountability for recruitment and training.

She says the program also suffers from an identity crisis because "you talk to different groups and you get different answers about whether the aim is to attract temporary or permanent workers."

"Further, there's this expectation for workers to be flexible, but there's been very little flexibility in the system—the immigration system, the certification system, all of these systems in place are not flexible," said Taylor. "Recent changes to immigration policies, such as fast-tracking for skilled and professional workers, may introduce greater flexibility into the recruitment of workers but still doesn't address problems with licensure or expedite paths to permanent residence for workers who have made a strong contribution to Canadian society." ■



Alison Taylor's research focused on challenges facing nurses and tradespeople who came to Canada through foreign-worker programs.

experiences of tradespeople in Alberta during and towards the end of the last boom. Both groups, she says, encountered disadvantages largely because of the rules and structures of both of the programs, as well as the limitations placed on them as internationally trained workers. Taylor says that clearly communicating expectations and guidelines to workers interested in coming to Canada, and offering more support to them in meeting licensure requirements and pursuing permanent residence, may afford these workers a greater chance of success in the Canadian context.

Taylor says several factors contributed to a lack of success by foreign-trained nurses, mostly from the

3-D map could give directions to fungus vaccine path

Brian Murphy

University of Alberta researchers have made a breakthrough use of 3-D magnetic resonance technology to map the structure of a common fungus that is potentially deadly for people with impaired immune function. The work could pave the way for development of an effective vaccine.

The researchers targeted *Candida albicans*, a pathogen that in its most virulent form has led to more than 70,000 bloodstream infections in North American hospital patients. Health officials estimate that the death rate from this bloodstream infection is 40 per cent.

Lead U of A researchers Margaret Johnson and David Bundle, as well as collaborators at the Alberta Glycomics Centre, used nuclear magnetic resonance for a three-dimensional examination of the fungus at an atomic scale that measures less than 100-millionth of a centimetre.

"The process is called molecular recognition," said Johnson. "We examined carbohydrate and antibody molecules related to the fungus in order to determine what sort of vaccine can best combat *Candida*."

Johnson described the three-dimensional approach to vaccinology as giving researchers a clear picture of how a vaccine must physically fit against the surface of the fungus.

The researchers used their findings to design test vaccines that produced positive results in containing

the fungus. "Our multi-pronged strategy allowed us to observe a new type of molecular recognition," she said.



Researchers Margaret Johnson and David Bundle display lab samples and a 3-D model of a *Candida* molecule with an antibody attached.

Johnson added that if the private sector chooses to complete development of a vaccine, it could be 10 years before the drug is available.

Johnson and Bundle were assisted by U of A researcher Jonathan Cartmell and colleagues at the National University of Ireland and University of Georgia. The research was published May 25 in the *Journal of Biological Chemistry*. ■



Congratulations to The Class of 2012

The Faculty of Extension congratulates and sends best wishes to all of our graduates in the following programs:

- Aboriginal Health Promotion Citation
- Applied Geostatistics Citation
- Applied Land Use Planning Certificate
- Business Analysis Professional Citation
- Certificate in Adult and Continuing Education
- Certificate in Local Government in Municipal Administration
- Construction Administration Certificate
- Environmental Resource Management Certificate
- Fine Arts Certificate
- Human Resources Management Certificate
- Information Access and Protection of Privacy Certificate
- Information Technology Management Certificate
- Management Development Certificate
- Management Development Certificate for Professional Engineers, Geologists and Geophysicists
- National Advanced Certificate in Local Authority Administration, Level I and Level II
- Occupational Health and Safety Certificate
- Residential Interiors Certificate
- Spanish Language Certificate
- Supervisory Development Citation

Engaging with communities
near and far



news [shorts]

folio presents a sample of some of the stories that recently appeared on the ualberta.ca news page. To read more, go to www.news.ualberta.ca.

Leading physicist named NINT exec director

Canada's National Institute for Nanotechnology's governing council has named Marie D'Iorio as its new executive director. Trained as a physicist, D'Iorio has expertise in nano-electronics. She had been acting as NINT's interim director general since last year.

"[Dr. Marie D'Iorio] is a remarkable leader who has, over the decades, had a prominent role in the science and technology sector, both nationally and internationally," said U of A President Indira Samarasekera. "I am thrilled that she will be focusing her time, energy and talents here as the executive director of NINT, and as professor of physics and assistant vice-president of research at the U of A."

During her time as interim director general, D'Iorio led the strategic planning process for NINT's second decade. The plan aims to increase industrial collaboration and reorganize the institute's research and development activities into four application areas, including energy generation storage and hybrid nano-scale electronics.

Marie D'Iorio joined the National Research Council in 1983, where she established the first low-temperature, high-magnetic field laboratory in Canada to study low-dimensional electron systems in semiconductor heterostructures. She served as director general of the council's Institute for Microstructural Sciences from 2003 to 2011.

Hereford genome study zeroes in on feed traits

The Canadian Hereford Association is leading a three-year genomics study to detect feed efficiency traits within the breed.

The \$945,000 project, which starts this fall, includes the University of Alberta, Alberta Agriculture, Olds College, Cattleland Feedyards, and Livestock Genetec.

The grant came from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Council of Canada under the College-University Idea to Innovation program.

The work will combine phenotypic and DNA information to find the most feed efficient cattle among 1,000 weaned bull calves.

Project leader John Basarab, adjunct professor in the Department of Agricultural, Life & Environmental Sciences and senior scientist with Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development, has already conducted considerable feed efficiency research and found it is a heritable trait.

Leading the way on China-Canada relations

Gordon Houlden has been reappointed to another five-year term as director of the University of Alberta's China Institute beginning July 1, 2013.

Since coming to the university in 2008, having served with the Canadian Foreign Service—mostly in China—for more than three decades, Houlden has elevated the profile of the institute, which is one of the university's main vehicles for engaging with the international community. Houlden says there will be changes during his second term that build on earlier successes.

"We will work with partners to increase scholarship of China, to expand on our knowledge and understanding of global China," he says. "We need to know how China trades, its growth patterns, and its future prospects in order to help serve the public policy needs of this province and the country."

Breath of fresh care for rural COPD patients

Michael Stickland, a researcher in the Division of Pulmonary Medicine, and colleague Fred MacDonald are on a mission to keep rural patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease—one of the top causes of hospitalization in the country—out of hospital.

With rehabilitation being vital to improving COPD patients' quality of life and limited respiratory services in Alberta's rural communities, MacDonald came up with the idea of using telehealth technology to reach out to patients in these communities.

"We beam the education sessions to outlying rural regions and conduct pulmonary rehab in towns like Camrose and Grande Prairie that normally wouldn't have access," said Stickland.

Thirteen rural sites jumped on board when the telehealth rehab program was launched. Now, patients in northern Alberta communities gather around televisions twice a week to learn more about the disease. They also do exercises at their home, and they are able to get consultations with pulmonologists through telehealth.

This marks the first time that telehealth has been used in pulmonary medicine in Alberta.

Call for academic staffer to join BoG

As of July 6, there will be a vacancy on the University of Alberta Board of Governors for one academic staff representative to be nominated by the General Faculties Council. The position is currently held by Louis Francescutti, professor in the School of Public Health. An election will take place to fill this upcoming vacancy.

Nominations are now being sought from among academic staff in continuing appointments funded either through operating funds or external funds.

For details on the nomination process and the deadline for nominations, please see the attached 'advertisement.'

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me by telephone at 780.492.4733 or by e-mail at garry.bodnar@ualberta.ca.

Campus singers find Synchronicity unaccompanied

Tarwinder Rai

When engineering graduate student Yang Gao isn't looking for nanofibrillated cellulose fibres, she likes to hit a note of her own.

In fact, she enjoys singing to her own tune so much that she decided to start her own a cappella club at the University of Alberta called Synchronicity.

"With a cappella you get to explore a different range of music and tone," says Gao, who started the club this winter. "It's a really fun team-building experience where you get to harmonize with everyone."

Gao was a member of the University of Waterloo a cappella club as an undergraduate student. When she came to the U of A last year and saw there was no group, she started one herself. Synchronicity has 13 members who practise weekly.

"Through a cappella, a person can really discover their singing talent step by step. It's such a huge feeling of accomplishment when you find a piece of music you like, arrange it to a cappella and then teach it to the club," she said, adding that everyone is encouraged to participate and no formal vocal training is required. "It's really fun, but you do have to put a lot of work into it."

"With a cappella, you get to explore a different range of music and tone. It's a really fun team-building experience where you get to harmonize with everyone."

Yang Gao

Gao's graduate research involves synthesizing and characterizing cellulose fibres that can be used as viscosity modifiers or thickeners. Nanofibrillated cellulose is a non-toxic, green additive made from wood pulp. It has shear thinning properties, which means it has high



Members of the Synchronicity a cappella group at the U of A enjoy harmonizing as a team and discovering new talents.

viscosity at rest and lower viscosity when mixed. This viscosity property makes it useful for colloidal mixtures that require mixing, like cement.

One of Gao's musical "discoveries" is Hale Oguzlu. Oguzlu came to the U of A from Turkey a few months ago, and like Gao, is a civil and environmental engineering graduate student. A self-proclaimed "bathroom singer," Oguzlu says she was reluctant at first, but everyone encouraged her to get involved.

"I am the perfect example that people can discover themselves [as singers] in the a cappella group," she says. "I didn't think I'd be singing when I came here as an engineering student. In the future, maybe I will be a singer with a PhD degree."

By being a part of the group, Oguzlu has not only made new friends, but also learned a lot about singing. She's now learning how to control her voice and the different notes.

Anyone interested in singing is encouraged to contact Gao and join the group. For more information, you can contact her at uofasynchronicity@gmail.com. The group's next performance is at the Elephant and Castle on Whyte Avenue June 15 starting at 9 p.m. ■

classified ads

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR RENT

LIVE IN THE HEART OF THE UNIVERSITY. Executive 2 bedroom plus den, over 1,400 sq. ft. condo. Beautifully designed with top of the line style. Underground parking. 1111-82 Ave. \$2,400/month. Gordon W.R. King & Assoc. Real Estate Corp. Call Michael Jenner and Janet Fraser at 780-441-6441 or email jennfra@interbaun.com.

TURNKEY FURNISHED SUITE. Stunning 1 plus den (second bedroom) 1.5 bath, Turnkey furnished suite with underground parking. Steps from the university. 11011-86 Ave. \$1,600/month. Gordon W.R. King & Assoc. Real Estate Corp. Call Michael Jenner and Janet Fraser at 780-441-6441 or email jennfra@interbaun.com.

EXECUTIVE SUITE. Turnkey furnished 1 bedroom with underground parking across from University Campus and LRT. Large executive suite with everything you need! Short term rental available until December, long term negotiable. 11027-87 Ave. \$1,500/month. Gordon W.R. King & Assoc. Real Estate Corp. Call Michael Jenner and Janet Fraser at 780-441-6441 or email jennfra@interbaun.com.

RAVINE LIVING. Beautiful large turnkey furnished 1 bedroom suite. Close to Ravines off 142st street. All utilities, cable, Internet included with cleaning service too. Call Today. \$1,600/month. 143 & 99 Ave. Gordon W.R. King & Assoc. Real Estate Corp. Call Michael Jenner and Janet Fraser at 780-441-6441 or email jennfra@interbaun.com.

WESTERN RELOCATION SERVICES LTD. Is looking on behalf of a client for a 3 bedroom plus home for a long term lease, in Grandview and Windsor Park area Edmonton. Please call Michael Jenner or Janet Fraser at 780-441-6441 if you are interested in leasing your home.

FREE RENT. July and August in return for feeding our cat and cutting our lawn. Easy bungalow in Pleasantview close to U of A. 780-461-1856. nelson-lauzon@hotmail.com.

WINDSOR PARK. 8727 - 117 Street. Just steps away from U of A campus and LRT. Beautifully renovated 1,349 sq. ft. home. 3 bedrooms, expansive living and dining rooms, brand new kitchen. Hardwood flooring throughout. Tiling in kitchen, entrance and bathroom. \$1,900/month. Available August 23rd. Please call 780-984-5867 or email jsavaryn@ualberta.ca.

BELGRAVIA. 2 bedroom condo close to U of A, LRT, river valley. Available July 1st. No pets or smoking. Unfurnished for \$1,100/month, but can furnish according to tenant needs for additional amount. Daena 780-436-8713 or tdlamoreux@hotmail.com.

PLEASANTVIEW HOUSE. Main floor of bungalow, 3 bedrooms. Steps to LRT, schools, shopping and University Hospital. Available immediately. 1 year lease preferred \$1,300/month. 780-469-1859 Joan or stefan.lalonde@ualberta.ca.

OLD STRATHCONA SUMMER RENTAL. July 1 - Aug 31. Fully furnished, 2 bedroom plus study, 2 baths, cathedral ceiling, DR, spacious family room. Close to U of A. No pets. \$1,700/month, utilities included. Some yard work required. Marie & Doug 780-435-6795 or mariachidley@shaw.com.

BELGRAVIA. August 1st occupancy. 3 bedroom house in south Belgravia. \$2,550/month. 11833-71A Ave. 780-886-6005.

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR SALE

MCKERNAN/ BELGRAVIA. South facing semi-bungalow. 1,700 sq. ft., 2 blocks from LRT, Edmonton Clinic, Cross Cancer, McKernan school, river valley. Backing onto Charles Simmonds Park.

4 bedrooms, vaulted ceiling, fireplace, feature windows, covered front and back decks, heated double garage. 1,100 sq. ft. basement suite. \$619,000. 780-435-5887

GORGEOUS, MODERN, COZY, CENTRAL CONDO. Cheaper than renting. For info and pictures enter ad# 348251134 in "search" box on www.kijiji.ca.

ACCOMMODATIONS WANTED

UNIVERSITY FACULTY MEMBER. Seeks 3 bedroom house near campus for fall semester 2012 (Sept - Dec). Please contact raft@ualberta.ca.

SERVICES

HOUSE SITTER AVAILABLE. For long-term absence. Available beginning July 2012. Call Elsa at 780-802-8835 or email eyrobinson@hotmail.com.

PIANO LESSONS. Creative, patient, innovative piano teacher available in Allendale. Anita 780-437-2332.

BUYING, SELLING, LEASING, CALL ME FIRST. Connie Kennedy 780-482-6766, 780-940-0414. Pioneer Condominium Specialist. www.conniekennedy.com. RE/MAX Real Estate.

DELUXE SERVICED & VIRTUAL OFFICES. Now available at the Ritchie Mill on Saskatchewan Drive. Access to lounge/meeting areas. Excellent for consultants. Contact Heather at (780) 437-0799.

GOODS FOR SALE

MINKA SWEATER SALE/OPEN HOUSE. Come see beautiful hand knit sweaters, shawls, scarves from women's cooperative in Bolivia, poorest country in South America. Pure alpaca/pima cotton. ALL PROCEEDS return to knitters. New this year – beautiful accessory scarves. Buy a gift that gives back! Saturday June 23, 2012 at Windsor Park Community Hall, 11840 - 87 Ave. 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Contact Linda 780-436-5732 or Jennifer 780-434-8105. www.minkhasweaters.com.

Pearly gifts reflect British tradition of loyalty, charity

Bev Betkowski

A bedazzling piece of Edmonton history has been donated to the University of Alberta's Clothing and Textiles Collection, where some treasured family artifacts will help teach students about the power of tradition and cultural pride.

A collection of British-themed costumes hand-sewn with thousands of shimmering mother-of-pearl and plastic buttons, representing the cultural pride and charitable works of an Edmonton family, was donated recently by Michael and June Dickerson and her sister Candy Williams. Dickerson's parents, Tom and Thelma Chissell, wore the encrusted finery as the city's "Pearly King and Queen" for 26 years.

"It's a huge piece of Edmonton history and community," said Vlada Blinova, manager of the U of A Clothing and Textiles Collection. "One of the goals of the university's clothing and textiles collection is to preserve local history and these costumes are a fantastic example of that."

The modern-day artifacts will be used to teach material culture students about the symbolism and deeper meaning of clothing, she added.

"These costumes are a wonderful example of social and political meaning in textiles."

The costumes were based on a British tradition the Chissells brought along when they immigrated to Canada in 1970. "My dad wanted to draw attention to English heritage, and being born a Cockney, he could be a Pearly King," said the Chissells' daughter June Dickerson.

An orphaned London waif named Henry Croft, who worked as a street sweeper in 19th-century England, started the tradition of so-called pearly clothing in 1875, after befriending a tough breed of street vendors called Costermongers, who took care of one another when



Vlada Blinova handles the "Pearly King and Queen" outfits once worn by Tom and Thelma Chissell.

in need. They sported pearl buttons on their clothing as an emblem of their pride.

Croft wanted to help people less fortunate, but knew he needed to draw attention to raise money, so as he swept the streets, he collected buttons that fell from the garb of the wealthy and sewed them onto his own clothes. The practice soon spread among the Costermongers, who joined Croft in his charity work and became England's first Pearlies.

From 1977 until Tom died in 2003 (Thelma died in 1991), the Chissells and their children stepped out in their buttoned best to local festivals, celebrations and landmark events like the 1978 Commonwealth Games in Edmonton, acting as community ambassadors and even drawing the attention of Queen Elizabeth II as she visited with the crowd.

"The Queen stepped over to us, my children presented her with flowers," Dickerson recalled. "That was probably the happiest day of my mom's life." The late Princess Diana also complimented Tom on his costume during a visit to Vancouver.

The Pearly collection of 16 pieces includes the king and queen costumes as well as outfits for a prince and princess, worn by Dickerson's children, matching purses and caps, socks proudly displaying the Union Jack, a British poster and, most treasured of all, letters of thanks from Queen Elizabeth, the City of

Edmonton and other groups for the charity work the Chissells carried out in their finery.

The costumes, decorated by Thelma, sport more than 10,000 buttons collected from friends and family around the world, and weigh up to 30 kilograms each. "My mother suffered from arthritis, but she sewed those buttons on anyway," Dickerson remembers.

True to the Pearly tradition, the Chissells wore their outfits when doing charity work. They sang "jolly pub songs" in nursing homes, sold poppies for the Royal Canadian Legion, raised money for Terry Fox Runs, and even visited hospitalized children while on vacation to Hawaii, Dickerson said. Tom, who harboured a lifelong desire to be a Costermonger, received permission from the City of Edmonton and sold flowers from a cart outside the old Bay store (now Enterprise Square) downtown. Anything left over after covering his costs went to charity.

After her mother died in 1991 and her father passed away in 2003, Dickerson inherited the costumes, but wanted to see them preserved, so she approached the U of A.

"I was proud of my parents for carrying on the Pearly tradition. They brought a bit of their homeland to Canada and they wanted to do things to make others happy. It meant a lot to them," Dickerson said. ■

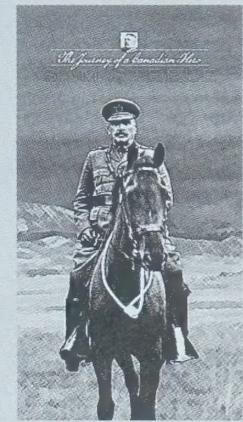
Sam Steele exhibit salutes iconic Canadian legend

Folio Staff

It's been four years since the personal artifacts of legendary Mountie Sam Steele finally came home to Alberta, repatriated from a family collection in London, England, by U of A Libraries. After much careful preparation and preservation, the Sir Samuel Steele Collection is now ready to go public, with an exhibition at downtown Edmonton's Enterprise Square Gallery and online.

The much-anticipated exhibition runs from June 1 to Sept. 30. Major-General Sir Samuel Benfield Steele (1849–1919) was an iconic and influential leader who was instrumental in policing Western Canada and the Yukon during the Klondike Gold Rush and participated in many of Canada's most historic military campaigns.

For the first time, visitors will have the opportunity to view the personal photographs, letters and diaries of this iconic Canadian, brought to life through video re-enactments, a 100-foot timeline of his life and travels, and an engaging audio tour that bring to life Steele's journeys across Canada and overseas. ■



PAUL STANSFIELD

laurels

John Nychka, a professor in the Faculty of Engineering, received Engineers Canada's Medal for Distinction in Engineering Education June 2 for his exemplary contribution to engineering teaching.

Lwww.campusmap.ualberta.ca.

President Indira Samarasekera will receive Canada's Public Policy Forum's Peter Lougheed Award for Leadership in Public Policy in Calgary Sept. 26. The award is presented to Western Canadian leaders who have had a national impact on policy and good governance. Canada's Public Policy Forum is an independent, not-for-profit organization dedicated to improving the quality of government in Canada through enhanced dialogue among the public, private and voluntary sectors. ■

talks & events

Talks & Events listings do not accept submissions via fax, mail, email or phone. Please enter events you'd like to appear in folio and at www.news.ualberta.ca/events. A more comprehensive list of events is available online at www.events.ualberta.ca. Deadline: noon one week prior to publication. Entries will be edited for style and length.

UNTIL JULY 14

China's Imperial Modern: The Painter's Craft. Do not miss this exciting new exhibition from the U of A Museums highlighting objects and artworks from the Mactaggart Art Collection. Through consideration of ink paintings, wood-block printed books, sketchbooks, and artist's tools such as inkstones and inksticks, The Painter's Craft asks how modern ways of making pictures—from mechanical copying to creative appropriation—emerged from the ink painter's studio and contributed to the crafting of everyday life in China during the imperial era. TELUS Centre.

UNTIL JULY 31

Charles Dickens (1812–1870): From Whom We Have Great Expectations. Monday–Friday, Noon–4:30 p.m. Bruce Peel Special Collections Library, B7 Rutherford South.

UNTIL JUNE 29

THE SUBLIME. Class exhibition of ART 439/539; Maria Madacky, instructor.

JUNE 13

HISTCLASS: Lessons from the Past Visions of the Future Conference. The Alberta Labour History Institute's first labour history conference will encourage rank-and-file union activists, social activists, academics and working people to share their experiences and expertise through innovative story circles, paper presentations and cultural events. Register for this conference online or by contacting Karen Werlin, ALHI administrator and conference co-chair, at kwerlin@telus.net or 780-481-2347. Registration for event is \$110.

John Dossett Health Ethics Symposium.

Health Ethics Challenges and Cultural Diversity. 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Maple Leaf Room, Lister Centre.

JUNE 14

2012 President's Staff Appreciation Picnic.

11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m. Main Quad, Rain or shine! Register at www.president.ualberta.ca/2012PresidentStaffAppreciationPicnic. Tickets will

not be distributed, so please bring your Staff ONEcard. Please register to let us know that you will be attending and your name will be entered into the door prize draw to win one of over 100 door prizes. In this spirit of sustainability, please bring your own reusable plates, utensils and cups and utilize the recycling centres. The Campus Food Bank will be onsite collecting donations for those who wish to support this charity. For more information, please contact Sheila at sheila.stosky@ualberta.ca or 780.492.1525.

JUNE 15

Power Wars: Obama, Bush, and the American Presidency After 9/11. Charlie Savage, Washington Correspondent for The New York Times and Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist, will be on hand to give the keynote address. 5:30–7 p.m. 2-58 Tory Building.

Out of Sight: A Sensory Experience. This is the third annual fundraiser to raise awareness and funds for research in inherited forms of vision loss. The evening begins with a champagne

reception and silent auction with live jazz music, followed by fine dining with wine pairings specially selected by Crestwood Fine Wines & Spirits. Guests dine in the dimly lit ballroom and are provided sleep masks and sunglasses to wear while they enjoy dinner, allowing them the opportunity to experience a daily task without the gift of full vision. Tickets are \$200 each, and a charitable donation tax receipt is provided for 50 per cent of ticket price. georgie@ualberta.ca, 780-735-4986. 5:30–11 p.m. Fantasiyland Hotel Ballroom at West Edmonton Mall.

JUNE 18–21

Faculty of Extension, Information Sessions. Find out what part-time study at the Faculty of Extension can do for you. Noon–1 p.m.

Enterprise Square. For more go to www.extension.ualberta.ca/infosessions or call 780-492-1218.

JUNE 19–JULY 14

Quotationalism @ FAB Gallery. Featuring artworks from BFA and MFA

students in the Department of Art & Design, Quotationalism is an artistic response to and redefinition of the objects on view in the U of A Museums exhibition China's Imperial Modern: The Painter's Craft. 1-1 Fine Arts Building.

JUNE 19

HUB Career Centre Seminar. Talking to Strangers: Networking for Newbies. Networking is the most effective strategy to tap into the hidden and visible job markets. Learn how to build and maintain contacts in your field so you can get the job that you want. 12:15–1 p.m. 8917 HUB Mall.

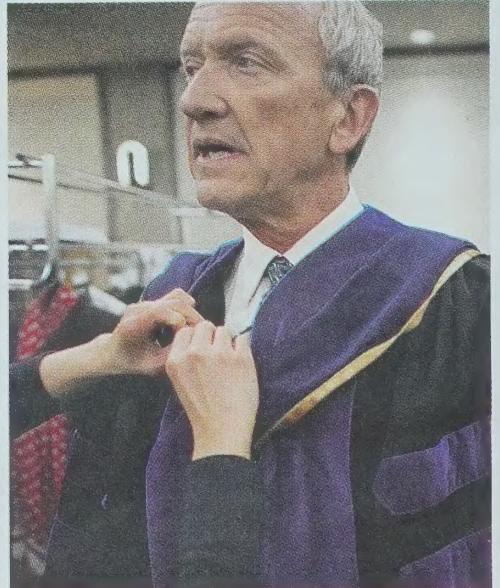
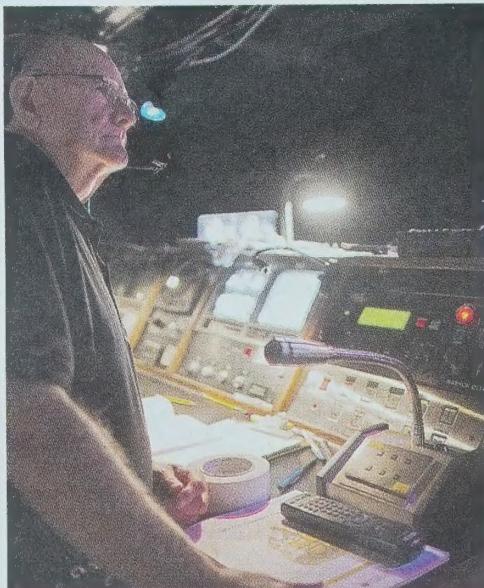
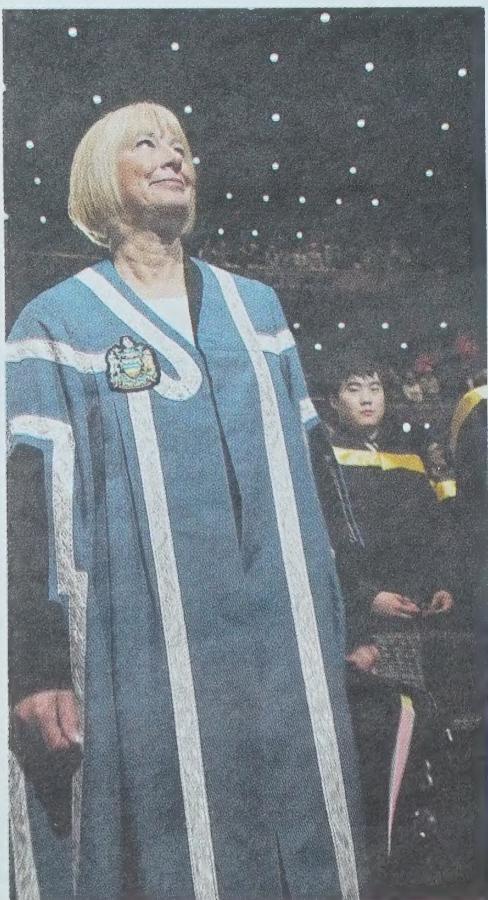
JUNE 22

Quotationalism Symposium.

In this free symposium presented in conjunction with the exhibitions Quotationalism (FAB Gallery) and China's Imperial Modern: The Painter's Craft (TELUS Centre), student co-curators and artists discuss the act of "quotationalism" as part of the painter's practice. 2–5 p.m. 2-20 Fine Arts Building.



THE MAKING OF CONVOCATION



From outgoing chancellor Linda Hughes' (left) year-round work, to the role the sound technician plays, to the robing of mace-bearer Dan Syrotiuk (far right), convocation is a momentous day that has many moving parts. Here, we present a look at the work behind the scenes that makes the day so special.

the
BackPage

by John Ulan